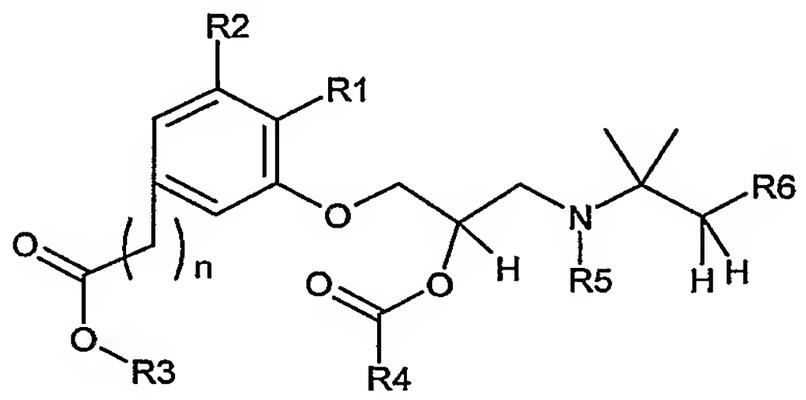
What is claimed is:

1. A compound according to formula (I) hereinbelow:

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.



R1 is selected from the group consisting of H, CN, and halogen;

R2 is selected from the group consisting of halogen and H;

R3 is selected from the group consisting of H and C_{1-5} alkyl, optionally substituted;

n is 0 – 5;

R4 is selected from the group consisting of C_{1-7} alkyl and cycloalkyl;

R5 is H or COR4; and

R6 is selected from the group consisting of aryl, fused aryl, dihydro, tetrahydro fused aryl, and heteroaryl, unsubstituted or substituted, with any substituent selected from the group consisting of OH, halogen, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkoxy, CF_3, OCF_3, CN and NO_2.

2. A compound according to claim 1 selected from the group consisting of:

3-[4-cyano-3-({(2*R*)-3-{[2-(2,3-dihydro-1*H*-inden-2-yl)-1,1-dimethylethyl]amino}-2-[(3-methylbutanoyl)oxy]propyl}oxy)phenyl]propanoic acid hydrochloride;

3-[4-cyano-3-({(2*R*)-3-{[2-(2,3-dihydro-1*H*-inden-2-yl)-1,1-dimethylethyl]amino}-2-[(2-methylpropanoyl)oxy]propyl}oxy)phenyl]propanoic acid hydrochloride;

3-[4-cyano-3-({(2*R*)-3-{[2-(2,3-dihydro-1*H*-inden-2-yl)-1,1-dimethylethyl]amino}-2-[(2,2-dimethylpropanoyl)oxy]propyl}oxy)phenyl]propanoic acid hydrochloride;

3-{3-[((2*R*)-2-(acetyloxy)-3-{[2-(2,3-dihydro-1*H*-inden-2-yl)-1,1-dimethylethyl]amino}propyl)oxy]-4-cyanophenyl}propanoic acid hydrochloride;

3-{4-cyano-3-[((2*R*)-2-[(cyclopropylcarbonyl)oxy]-3-{[2-(2,3-dihydro-1*H*-inden-2-yl)-1,1-dimethylethyl]amino}propyl)oxy]phenyl}propanoic acid hydrochloride;

3-(4-cyano-3-{[(2*R*)-3-{[2-(2,3-dihydro-1*H*-inden-2-yl)-1,1-dimethylethyl]amino}-2-(D-valyloxy)propyl]oxy}phenyl)propanoic acid hydrochloride;

3-[3-({(2*R*)-3-{[2-(2,3-dihydro-1*H*-inden-2-yl)-1,1-dimethylethyl]amino}-2-[(3-methylbutanoyl)oxy]propyl}oxy)-4,5-difluorophenyl]propanoic acid trifluoroacetate;

3-[3-({(2*R*)-3-{[2-(2,3-dihydro-1*H*-inden-2-yl)-1,1-dimethylethyl]amino}-2-[(2-methylpropanoyl)oxy]propyl}oxy)-4,5-difluorophenyl]propanoic acid trifluoroacetate;

ethyl 3-{3-[((2*R*)-2-(acetyloxy)-3-{[2-(2,3-dihydro-1*H*-inden-2-yl)-1,1-dimethylethyl]amino}propyl)oxy]-4-cyanophenyl}propanoate hydrochloride;

ethyl 3-(3-{[(2*R*)-3-{acetyl[2-(2,3-dihydro-1*H*-inden-2-yl)-1,1-dimethylethyl]amino}-2-(acetyloxy)propyl]oxy}-4-cyanophenyl)propanoate;

(1*R*)-2-({2-cyano-5-[3-(ethyloxy)-3-oxopropyl]phenyl}oxy)-1-({[2-(2,3-dihydro-1*H*-inden-2-yl)-1,1-dimethylethyl]amino}methyl)ethyl 2-methylpropanoate hydrochloride;

(1*R*)-2-({2-cyano-5-[3-(ethyloxy)-3-oxopropyl]phenyl}oxy)-1-({[2-(2,3-dihydro-1*H*-inden-2-yl)-1,1-dimethylethyl]amino}methyl)ethyl 3-methylbutanoate hydrochloride;

(1*R*)-2-({2-cyano-5-[3-(ethyloxy)-3-oxopropyl]phenyl}oxy)-1-({[2-(2,3-dihydro-1*H*-inden-2-yl)-1,1-dimethylethyl]amino}methyl)ethyl 2,2-dimethylpropanoate hydrochloride;

(1*R*)-2-({2-cyano-5-[3-(ethyloxy)-3-oxopropyl]phenyl}oxy)-1-({[2-(2,3-dihydro-1*H*-inden-2-yl)-1,1-dimethylethyl]amino}methyl)ethyl cyclopropanecarboxylate hydrochloride;

ethyl 3-[4-cyano-3-({(2*R*)-3-{[2-(2,3-dihydro-1*H*-inden-2-yl)-1,1-dimethylethyl]amino}-2-[(trifluoroacetyl)oxy]propyl}oxy)phenyl]propanoate;

3-[3-({(2*R*)-3-{[2-(2,3-dihydro-1*H*-inden-2-yl)-1,1-dimethylethyl]amino}-2-[(2,2-dimethylpropanoyl)oxy]propyl}oxy)-4,5-difluorophenyl]propanoic acid;

3-[3-({(2*R*)-3-{[2-(2,3-dihydro-1*H*-inden-2-yl)-1,1-dimethylethyl]amino}-2-[(phenylcarbonyl)oxy]propyl}oxy)-4,5-difluorophenyl]propanoic acid;

3-{3-[((2*R*)-2-(acetyloxy)-3-{[2-(2,3-dihydro-1*H*-inden-2-yl)-1,1-dimethylethyl]amino}propyl)oxy]-4,5-difluorophenyl}propanoic acid;

(1*R*)-2-{[2-(2,3-dihydro-1*H*-inden-2-yl)-1,1-dimethylethyl]amino}-1-[({5-[3-(ethyloxy)-3-oxopropyl]-2,3-difluorophenyl}oxy)methyl]ethyl 3-methylbutanoate;

(1*R*)-2-{[2-(2,3-dihydro-1*H*-inden-2-yl)-1,1-dimethylethyl]amino}-1-[({5-[3-(ethyloxy)-3-oxopropyl]-2,3-difluorophenyl}oxy)methyl]ethyl 2-methylpropanoate;

(1*R*)-2-{[2-(2,3-dihydro-1*H*-inden-2-yl)-1,1-dimethylethyl]amino}-1-[({5-[3-(ethyloxy)-3-oxopropyl]-2,3-difluorophenyl}oxy)methyl]ethyl 2,2-dimethylpropanoate;

(1*R*)-2-{[2-(2,3-dihydro-1*H*-inden-2-yl)-1,1-dimethylethyl]amino}-1-[({5-[3-(ethyloxy)-3-oxopropyl]-2,3-difluorophenyl}oxy)methyl]ethyl benzoate;

ethyl 3-{3-[((2*R*)-2-(acetyloxy)-3-{[2-(2,3-dihydro-1*H*-inden-2-yl)-1,1-dimethylethyl]amino}propyl)oxy]-4,5-difluorophenyl}propanoate.

3. A method of antagonizing a calcium receptor, which comprises administering to a subject in need thereof, an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.

4. A method of treating a disease or disorder characterized by an abnormal bone or mineral homeostasis, which comprises administering to a subject in need of treatment thereof an effective amount of a compound of claim 1.

5. A method according to claim 4 wherein the bone or mineral disease or disorder is selected from the group consisting of osteosarcoma, periodontal disease, fracture healing, osteoarthritis, joint replacement, rheumatoid arthritis, Paget's disease, humoral hypercalcemia, malignancy and osteoporosis.

6. A method according to claim 5 wherein the bone or mineral disease or disorder is osteoporosis.

7. A method according to claim 6 wherein the compound is co-administered with an anti-resorptive agent.

8. A method according to claim 7 wherein the anti-resorptive agent is selected from the group consisting of estrogen, 1, 25 $(OH)_2$ vitamin D3, calcitonin, selective estrogen receptor modulators, vitronectin receptor antagonists, V-H+-ATPase inhibitors, src SH2 antagonists, bisphosphonates and cathepsin K inhibitors.

9. A method of increasing serum parathyroid levels which comprises administering to a subject in need of treatment an effective amount of a compound of claim 1.

10. A method according to claim 9 wherein the compound is co-administered with an anti-resorptive agent.

11. A method according to claim 10 wherein the anti-resorptive agent is selected from the group consisting of: estrogen, 1, 25 $(OH)_2$ vitamin D3, calcitonin, selective estrogen receptor modulators, vitronectin receptor antagonists, V-H+-ATPase inhibitors, src SH2 antagonists, bisphosphonates and cathepsin K inhibitors.